THE
Theatrical Observer;
AND
Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—OTHELLO.

No. 1778 *Tuesday, Aug.* 21, 1827. *Price* 1*d.*

☞ "The Play's the thing!"—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

Hay-market Theatre.

LAST night the Comedy of *The Way to Keep Him, The Rencontre,* and *'Twixt the Cup and the Lip,* were acted here.—The two first pieces went off remarkably well, but the last seemed to tire the actors, as well as the audience. The curtain fell at five minutes before 1 o'clock, and we must again say, that it is a great pity the performances are spun to such an unreasonable time. The new Drama, called *The Goldsmith,* will be brought out on Thursday.

English Opera House.

THE long promised Opera by Paer, was last night produced at this Theatre; the frequent disappointments the public have been subjected to in the production of this Opera from the unfortunate indisposition of Miss Paton, and the anxiety to see a singer so very new to the stage as Miss Betts, undertake a part of so much difficulty, drew a very crowded house. This Opera is entitled *The Freebooters*—the story is very simple;—Between the Ardinghelli and Ligozzi families (Florentine nobles) has existed for many years an hereditary feud, and Uberto de'Ardinghelli, has been driven from his native Florence, and forced by the machinations of the Ligozzi, to take refuge in the mountains, where he becomes the captain of a band of Freebooters; by some accident the wife of Edoardo Ligozzi, the deadliest foe of Uberto de'Ardinghelli, falls into his hands, and subsequently in endeavouring to aid the escape of his wife, Edoardo also falls into his power; this power he uses nobly, and after heroically struggling with his long cherished hatred, Uberto gives them liberty, but as they are about to depart, he discovers that Isabella, the wife of Edoardo, is his daughter; of course the feud is healed, and the two rival families are united in affection, as well as in blood. Our readers will perceive that the incidents are somewhat meagre; indeed, the dialogue part of this Opera is very brief, and this is its chief merit. Of the most important part, the music, we may speak in the highest terms; much of Paer's music is familiar to the English public, and this Opera will add to his fame: there is some most delightful music in it, the general character of which is sweetness and rickness; the Opera chiefly consists of concerted piece, there are very few solo's or duets, but there is a delightfully skilful combination of melody in all these, and we have no doubt, but that this Opera will become a decided favourite with the English public.

We must now speak of the acting.—Miss Betts who undertook the part of *Isabella dei Ligozzi,* is quite new to the stage, not having

appeared more than six or seven times:—when this is considered, her performance will be found a most wonderful one; she naturally wanted ease and self-possession, but her singing was often brilliant, always delightful; she gave the airs allotted her with science, taste, and judgment, and was most enthusiastically applauded throughout; when she has become a little more at home in the part, we are sure she will create a great impression; her singing was last night often extremely brilliant, one air particularly so—Miss Betts has made an advance in public estimation by this performance, which is generally a labour of years; and we have no doubt, but as soon as she shall become a little more familiar with the part, and with the audience, she will be all that can be wished. Mr. Pearman sang well as *Edoardo dei Ligozzi*, and Mr. Philips as the injured head of the house of *Ardinghelli*, sang with taste, science, and power, and would have created more effect if he had thrown rather more animation into his acting. Mr. Penson had a comic character, the servant of *Edoardo*; a good deal of the comic part of the Opera fell to his share, and he executed it with great ability;—but, we think, the character of *Gianni* wants curtailment. Mr. Bland, Miss Goward, and Miss Boden, all sang well, and did much for the success of the Opera, which is well got up, as regards both dresses and scenery, and will, we have no doubt, prove highly attractive for the remainder of the season. It was announced for Wednesday, amidst acclamations of applause. *The Serjeant's Wife*, concluded.

A young Lady of great beauty and dramatic promise has by accident been discovered by one of our Metropolitan Managers, who anticipates that she will equal Miss O'Neil.

Fashionable Lounges.—Open Daily.

DIORAMA, Regent's Park.—Two New Views;—*Saint Cloud, and Environs of Paris*, taken from Bas Meudon, painted by M. Bouton; and *Ruins in a Fog*, painted by M. Daguere, with the various Effects of Light and Shade; this picture represents the effects of a Fog, which, gradually dissipating, discovers the surrounding Country and Mountains.—Open daily from 10 till 4 o'clock.

COSMORAMA, 209, Regent Street.—A new Change in the Views has taken place, viz.:—Edinburgh, with the Effect of a Conflagration, as exhibited at the Diorama, at Paris, and for the first time in London—Priory of St. Julian, at Quevilly, with Effect of Light and Shade—Three Views of Palmyra—Bridge of Cords in Peru—Geneva—Glaciers of Grindelwald, and other Views not less interesting—Open from 10 till dusk—Admittance to both galleries 1s.

MICROCOSM—A Grand Display of the *Wonders of Nature*, by means of Twelve Microscopes, on a scale of magnitude, never before attempted; this Exhibition is contrived, &c. by Philip Carpenter, Optician, and open at his Premises, 24, Regent Street, corner of Jermyn Street, from 11 till 8 o'clock—Adm. 1s.

Mr. FINN's Fancy Glass-working Exhibition, in Miniature, displaying the Art of Modelling and Working, Removed from the Strand, to 164, Regent Street.

GLIDDON's Cigar Divan, 42, King Street, Covent Garden.

"Tobacco without Coffee, is like Meat without Salt."—Persian Prov.

We take great pleasure in recommending our readers to the above elegant Establishment, and entirely coincide with the opinions quoted—viz. that "the Cigars are fine, the Coffee as good as it can be, and the Society excellent."—*Times*. "Here a man may smoke in luxury, obtain a cup of capital Coffee, and feed his curiosity with the tattle of the day from the best publications."—*Every Night Book*. All the Magazines, Reviews, and Newspapers are taken in; an elegant Chess Table is provided.

Open from 4 to 10, Sundays excepted.

English Opera-House, Strand.

This Evening the Comic Operetta of

Before Breakfast.

Nicholas Trefoil, Mr MATHEWS,
In which Character he will sing— "*Country Sports*,"
Sir William Buffer, Mr BARTLEY,
Major Havannah.....Mr W. BENNETT,
John, Mr KEELEY,
Lieutenant Havannah, Mr J. BLAND,
Fanny, Miss BODEN.

After which,

Jonathan in England!

Jonathan W. Doubikins, Mr MATHEWS,
Mr Delapierre, Mr J. BLAND,
Sir Leatherlip Grossfeeder, Mr BARTLEY
Mr Ledger, Mr W. BENNETT,
Jemmy Larkspur.....Mr O. SMITH,
Natty Larkspur, Mr KEELEY,
Tidy, Mr SALTER, Agamemnon, Mr SLOMAN,
Butler, Mr MINTON.
Patty, Miss C. CARR, Blanch, Mrs BRYAN,
Lady Groosfeeder, Mrs WESTON,
Mrs Lemon, Mrs WEIPPERT, Mary, Miss BODEN.

To conclude with the Farce of

I Will Have a Wife.

Admiral Firedrake, Mr. BARTLEY,
Mr Dennis O'Leary, Mr POWER, Thomas, Mr IRWIN,
Captain Firedake, Mr PEARMAN,
Harry Merton, Mr BAKER, Binnacle, Mr MINTON,
Clod, Mr LODGE.
Isabella Hardy, Miss GOULD, Mrs Summerfield, Miss GRAY,
Mrs Ogleby, Mrs WESTON, Emily Rosebank, Miss BODEN.

To-morrow, The Freebooters, with The Serjeant's Wife.

Printed and Published by E. Thomas, Denmark-court, Exeter-change, Strand
All Communications must be post paid.

Theatre Royal, Hay-Market.

This Evening, the Comedy of A

Bold Stroke for a Wife.

Colonel Fainwell, Mr COOPER,
Freeman, Mr RAYMOND, Sackbut, Mr LEE,
Sir P. Modelove, Mr HAMMERTON,
Obediah Prim,..... ....Mr WILKINSON,
Perriwinkle, Mr FARREN, Simon Pure, Mr ROSS,
Tradelove, Mr YOUNGER,
Gentlemen, Messrs. BISHOP, and COOKE,
Stock Brokers, Messrs. COVENEY, & C. MORRIS.
Ann Lovely, Miss E. TREE,
Betty, Mrs GALLOTT, Lady, Miss LINDSEY,
Mrs Prim, Mrs GLOVER.

After which, the Comedy of

THE RENCONTRE.

Baron de Boncœur, Mr W. FARREN,
Pierre, M. LAPORTE, Lieut. St. Leon, Mr A. LEE,
Colonel de Courcy, Mr COOPER,
Officer of Gendarmerie.....Mr GALLOTT,
Major Moustache, Mr WILLIAMS,
Landlord, Mr BISHOP, Servant, Mr COATES.
Justine, Madame VESTRIS,
Who will introduce——" *Love was once a Little Boy.*"
Madame de Merville, Miss E. TREE.

To conclude with the Musical Entertainment of

No Song No Supper.

Frederick, Mr MELROSE, Robin, Mr GALLOTT,
William, Mr C. MORRIS,
Endless, Mr WILKINSON, Crop, Mr PYNE, Thomas, Mr ROSS,
Margaretta, Miss FORDE, Dorothy, Mrs WAYLETT,
Nelly, Mrs TAYLEURE, Louisa, Miss A. JONES.

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For 1825 & 1826, forming a concise History of the London Stage, are complete in 52 weekly numbers, at 1½d each—may be had at the Office of *The Theatrical Observer*, and, by order, of all Booksellers and Newsmen.